IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

In re :

: In Chapter 13

DEBORAH L. HUNTER,

Bankruptcy No. 18-11079 (ELF)

Debtor.

-----X

THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA'S OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED FIRST AMENDED CHAPTER 13 PLAN

TO THE HONORABLE ERIC L. FRANK:

AND NOW, comes the City of Philadelphia, (the "City"), a secured creditor in the above-captioned case, by and through its Counsel, Pamela Elchert Thurmond, Deputy City Solicitor, pursuant to Bankruptcy Code §§ 506(b), 1325(a)(5), and L.B.R. 3015-4, to object to the proposed first amended Chapter 13 plan (the "Plan"), of the above-captioned debtor, (the "Debtor"). The City avers the following in support thereof:

- 1. On or about February 16, 2018, the Debtor filed a voluntary petition (the "Petition") for Chapter 13 bankruptcy with this Court.
- 2. A list of all real property owned by the Debtor was filed on February 16, 2018, which included the property located at 1817 Ashurst, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (the "Subject Property"). A copy of the Debtor's Schedule A/B is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
- 3. The Subject Properties are alleged by the Debtor to have a current value of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Two Dollars (\$120,222.00). See Exhibit A.

- 4. On August 15, 2018, the City filed a claim in the amount of Two Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars and Forty-Six Cents (\$2,594.46) for real estate taxes on the Subject Property (the "Secured Claim"). A copy of the proof of claim filed by the City is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.
- 5. As neither the Debtor nor another party in interest has objected to the Secured Claim, it is deemed allowed. See 11 U.S.C. § 502(a).
- 6. On August 20, 2018, the Debtor filed the Plan, which provides for a secured payment to the City in the amount of \$2,594.46, but fails to provide for postpetition interest to the Secured Claim. A copy of the Plan is attached hereto as **Exhibit C**.
- 7. The City is entitled to post-petition interest on the Secured Claim until the last payment under the Plan. See 11 U.S.C. § 506(b); See also U.S. v. Ron Pair Enters., 489 U.S. 235 (1989), In re Nixon, 404 Fed. Appx. 575, 578 (3d Cir. 2010), In re Bernbaum, 404 B.R. 39, 42 (Bankr. D. Mass. 2009), and In re Soppick, 516 B.R. 733, 753 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 2014).
- 8. The post-petition interest applicable to the real estate tax portion of the Secured Claim is the nine percent (9%) interest rate on real estate taxes assessed on the Subject Properties. See 11 U.S.C. § 511(a), Phil. Code § 19-1303, In re Bernbaum, 404 B.R. 39, 43 (Bankr. D. Mass. 2009), and In re Soppick, 516 B.R. 733, 753 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 2014).
- 9. The Plan should not be confirmed as the City, a secured creditor, has not accepted the plan. See 11 U.S.C. 1325(a)(5)(A).
- 10. The Plan should not be confirmed as it fails to provide post-petition interest on the Secured Claim and thus does not ensure that distributions under the plan

are not less than the allowed amount of the Secured Claim. <u>See</u> 11 U.S.C. §§ 506(b), 1325(a)(5)(B)(ii), <u>In re Bernbaum</u>, 404 B.R. 39, 42 (Bankr. D. Mass. 2009) and <u>In re Soppick</u>, 516 B.R. 733, 753 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 2014).

WHEREFORE, the City respectfully requests that this Court DENY confirmation of the Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Dated: September 11, 2018 By: /s/ Pamela Elchert Thurmond

PAMELA ELCHERT THURMOND

Deputy City Solicitor PA Attorney I.D. 202054

Attorney for the City of Philadelphia City of Philadelphia Law Department

Municipal Services Building 1401 JFK Boulevard, 5th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102-1595 215-686-0508 (phone)

Email: Pamela.Thurmond@phila.gov